Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract:

A method for the acquisition of burst synchronisation signals in a spread spectrum communication system is provided. The method receives a burst synchronisation signal, applies a dwelling procedure according to a scheduling scheme to the burst synchronisation signal, wherein the dwelling procedure calculates a matched filter output, sums the outputs over one slot time, calculates the energy in the sum, searches the maximum energy value and passes it to a Random Access Memory. At the end of the scheduling scheme, searching is performed for the overall maximum energy value among the energy values stored in the Random Access Memory.

Please amend paragraph 19 as follows:

[0019] Fig. 5 represents an alternative embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 6 represents implementation of the invention through use of a module, integrated circuit device, receiver and spread spectrum communication apparatus.

Please amend paragraph 28 as follows:

[0028] It is clear from this description many more combinations can be envisaged. The more noise is present, the longer the acquisition time will be required. Referring to FIG. 6, the above-described method is implemented using module 100 for the acquisition of burst synchronisation signals 110. The module 100 comprises means for applying the above-described method which is generally represented by reference numeral 120. Preferably, module 100 is comprised in an integrated circuit device 140. Alternatively, a receiver 160 comprises module 100 or integrated circuit device 140 as described above. In yet another embodiment, a spread-spectrum communication apparatus 180 comprises module 100 or integrated circuit device 140.